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Dear Tom – PLEASE help me get max. publicity with these 2 "hot" stories on West Coast – 1st of ALL, PLEASE → CALL ASSHOLE JANN & Tell him these are "hot" items for R.S. "Random Notes" – also slip items to Barb – + any rock-oriented papers I don't know of. HELP ME BECOME FAMOUS! LOVE, Ken

# HIGH SOCIETY

# Anger rising

## Jimmy Page gets the shove from Lucifer film score gig

**LED ZEPPELIN guitarist and leader Jimmy Page has been fired as composer for the soundtrack of the film 'Lucifer Rising' by its director, Kenneth Anger. Speaking in London on Friday, Anger decried Page for time-wasting and a lack of dedication to the project, and claimed that Page's personal problems had made him impossible to work with. Page has been working on the film soundtrack for the past three years and has so far delivered some 28 minutes of completed tape.**

The story of the collaboration — and the ensuing rift — goes back to 1973 when Page first agreed to compose and perform the movie soundtrack. He and Anger first met at Sotheby's, at an auction of boots by the English occultist/magician Aleister Crowley. Both Page and Anger are students of Crowley's teachings. Anger is a practising *magus* (a priest/magician) and his films — of which 'Scorpio Rising' is perhaps the best known — are replete with occult symbolism. Anger himself describes them as 'spells and invocations'.

Page has often expressed interest in the teachings of Crowley. He owns the second largest collection of Crowley's books in the world, and one of his three houses is Crowley's former residence at Boleskine on the shores of Loch Ness. 'Lucifer Rising', Anger's most ambitious project to date, deals with the 'fallen angel' of orthodox Christian mythology, who in Anger's film is restored to his gnostic status as 'the bringer of light'; an implicit part of Crowley's own teachings.

The collaboration has continued intermittently since that first meeting. Anger commuting between London and New York to oversee the publication of his book on film-star scandals, 'Hollywood Babylon', and Page involved with Led Zeppelin performances and recording. For the past three months Anger has been using the film-editing facilities in the basement of Page's Victorian manse in London, to trim the 17 hours of film he has in the can down to 1½ hours.

Page had the equipment installed to work on another project, the 'Zeppelin Live At Madison Square Garden' film, provisionally titled 'The Song Remains The Same'. Anger's work at Page's house was terminated by an extraordinary sequence of events beginning Tuesday night when Anger — apparently the unwitting victim of a domestic fracas — was ordered to leave the house by Page's girlfriend, who was staying there at the time. No reason was given for his eviction. He returned to the house Wednesday morning to collect his film-material and belongings to find the door locked and bolted.

The same afternoon Anger, unable to reach Page himself, informed his management/record company Swansong that the film collaboration was off and that Page had been fired from the project. Thursday morning Anger was eventually able to recover some of his belongings and the film from Page's now empty London home. Jimmy Page, in town for a friend's funeral, was unavailable for comment, but a spokesperson for Swansong claimed to be totally mystified by the news that the guitarist had been fired from the Lucifer project; he even expressed surprise at the information that Anger was even in London.

Friday morning, a piqued but by no means disconsolate Anger was to be found at Page's home removing the last of his belongings and film artifacts — including the crown of Lucifer, paste studded with rhinestones from a dress once worn by Mae West. "I haven't laid eyes on Jimmy Page since early June," he said. "I've been trying to get in contact with him since then; I've fixed meetings through his office and been stood up half a dozen times. I've left messages on his Kafka-esque answering machine. All I've had is promises that the soundtrack is on its way, but nothing's materialised. I've got a fuckin' film to finish.

"The way he has been behaving is totally contradictory to the teachings of Aleister Crowley and totally contradictory to the ethos of the film. Lucifer is the angel of light and of beauty. But the vibes that come off Jimmy are totally alien to that — and to human contact. It's like a bleak lunar landscape. By comparison Lucifer is like a field full of beautiful flowers — although there may be a few bumble-bees waiting to sting you if you're not careful.

"I'm beginning to think Jimmy's dried up as a musician. He's got no themes, no inspiration, no melodies to offer. I'm sure he doesn't have another 'Stairway To Heaven', which is his most Luciferian song. 'Presence' was very much a negative, downer album. In the first place his commitment to 'Lucifer' seemed to be totally serious, and he was very enthusiastic about the project.

On the one hand he's very into enterprise and hard work, but on the other hand he has this problem dragging him down. He's been acting like Jekyll & Hyde, and I have to have someone who's 100%. This film is my life's work.

"I really don't think he has the zip or zing — the capabilities to do it. If he'd have said he was bored with the project I'd have understood, but he's just strung me along. Now he's no longer on the project. I'm no longer interested in having him."

*Mr. Anger leaves the Page abode clutching personal belongings.*

According to Anger, Page was never actually *employed* to do the soundtrack. "There was never any discussion about money. The whole idea behind the film was that it should be an offering of love. The idea was to go 50/50 on the film's profits and that Jimmy should have all the proceeds from any soundtrack album that came out of it. We never put anything down on paper. We had a gentleman's agreement to see the project through, which to me is more serious than anything written down by lawyers."

Anger has spent the best part of the last nine years attempting to complete 'Lucifer Rising', and the Page episode is simply the latest in a catalogue of upsets, misfortune and disruptions which have plagued the film's progress. Up until now Anger's main problem has been finding someone to take the part of Lucifer.

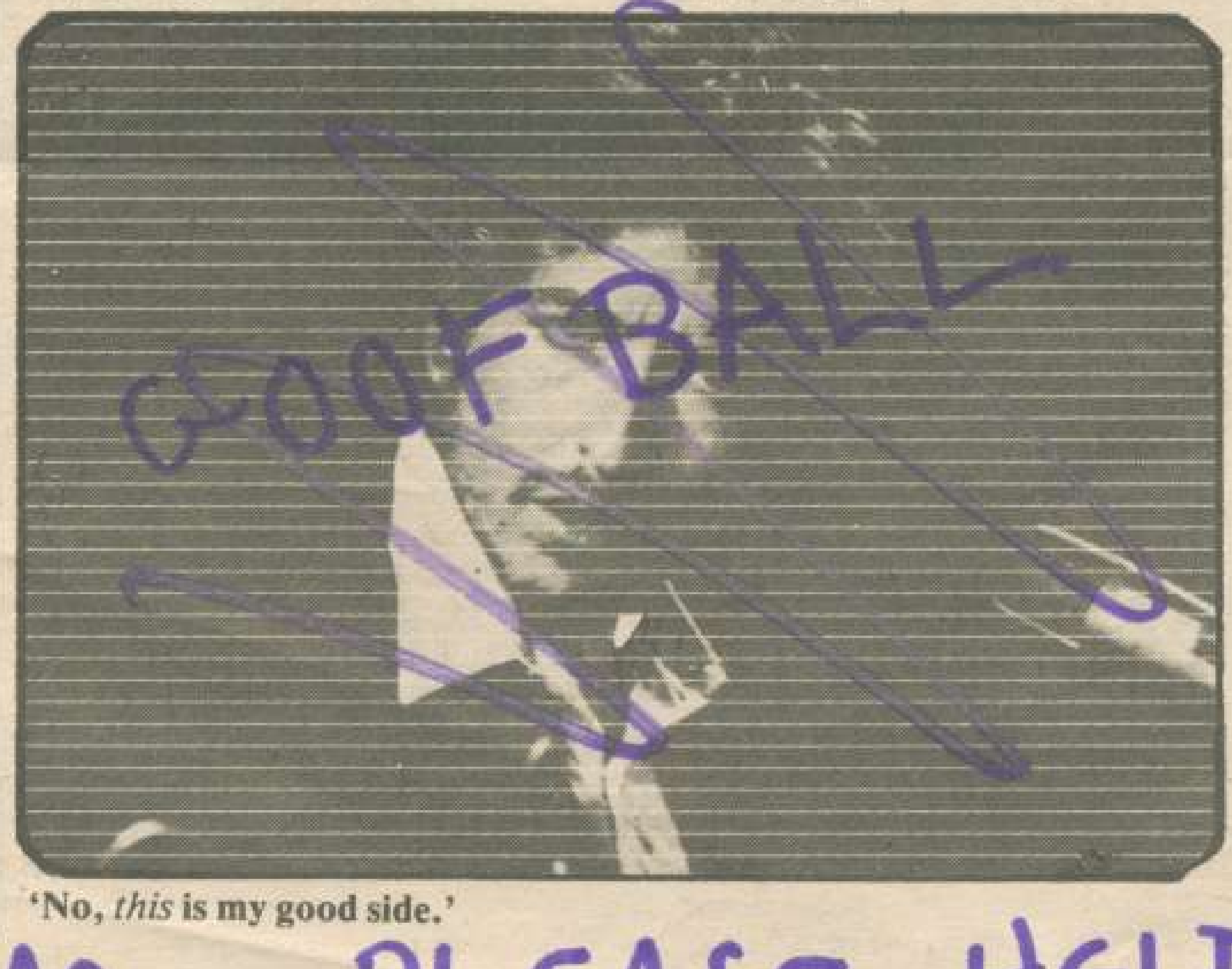
The original Lucifer was to be a five-year-old boy, but he died in an accident before filming had begun? His place was taken by Bobby Beausoleil, a former guitarist with the group Love. Beausoleil was fired from the movie after a prolonged altercation with Anger, and left taking most of the completed film with him. As a symbol of protest Anger inserted a full-page R.I.P. notice for himself in the New York *Village Voice*. Two years later Beausoleil was facing a sentence for life imprisonment for murder after falling under the sickening spell of the high-priest of gore, Charlie Manson.

With what little footage remained from the Beausoleil escapade, Anger shaped another film 'Invocation Of My Demon Brother', with a synthesiser soundtrack by Mick Jagger. Jagger was evidently much taken with Anger's work (indeed, Anger claims it was their conversations which inspired Jagger to write 'Sympathy For The Devil'), and agreed to take the part of Lucifer. He backed down before shooting began, however, apparently fearing that the satanic aura he had once sought to cultivate was becoming too tangible for comfort.

His pace was taken by brother Chris, but an on-set row with Anger led to Jagger's dismissal. Eventually a Middlesbrough steelworker named Leslie Huggins was recruited for the part, and with Marianne Faithfull and Donald Cammel (author of 'Performance') also taking principal roles, filming began.

Anger is now working on editing the film to meet a Christmas deadline and looking for a musician to do the soundtrack. "I'm seriously questioning whether to use a musician from the rock world," he says. "It seems like most of today's rock mucic is savage, deliberate bad taste. It's not optimistic, constructive or even fun anymore. I'm certainly jaded with that rock superstar syndrome. They're like renaissance bandits. Who need those people?" Asked whether he felt vindictive towards Jimmy Page he said: "You bet I do. I'm not a Christian, turn the other cheek kind." He allowed a thin smile. "In fact, I'm all ready to throw a Kenneth Anger curse . . ."

Persistent attempts to contact Swansong for some statement from or on behalf of Jimmy Page were met with a stonewall of silence. Not even a 'no comment' . . . — OSIRIS.



GOOFBALL

'No, *this* is my good side.'

# Are we rollin', Bob?

BHE BOB DYLAN film, 'Hard Rain' that you watched on Tuesday night's 'Old Grey

DEAR TOM – PLEASE HELP ME ON "LUCIFER RISING" PUBLICITY! (IT'S THE ONLY WAY!

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